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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bianca M. Conti-Fine

Examiner: Patrick J. Nolan

Serial No.: 08/991,143

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filed: December 16, 1997

Docket: 600.423US1

Title: METHODS TO TREAT UNDESIRABLE IMMUNE RESPONSES

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

SEP 12 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on June 5, 2002, please amend the above identified patent application as follows.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In the Claims

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled "Clean Version of Pending Claims" for the previously pending claim set. Specific amendments to individual claims are detailed below.

Please cancel claims 4, 6, and 8-12 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

2. (Five times amended) A method of suppressing, tolerizing or inhibiting the priming or activity of CD4⁺ T cells which are associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production specific for [a particular] an exogenous antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a mammal afflicted with, or at risk of, the indication or disease a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to suppress, tolerize [of] or inhibit the priming or activity of, CD4+ T cells which are associated with said antibody production, thereby reducing or inhibiting the amount of said antibody, in mammals having divergent immune response haplotypes, wherein the CD4+ T cells are specific for the exogenous antigen, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope sequence, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the antigen.